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SURFRIDER REPORT CARD

AMERICA'S BEACHES ARE SLIPPING AWAY

JEFF GRITCHEN — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A cliff of sand, 10 feet high in some places, was created when sand eroded from North Beach in San Clemente in January.

While California earned high marks and was the only state to receive an 'A,' the report shows most coastal states are losing the battle with climate change

MICHAEL GOULDING — STAFF FILE PHOTO

Palm trees peek out from behind a berm that was produced by high surf and winds near the Balboa Pier. A runner jogs past the berm, which in some places is over 10 feet high due to erosion.

By Laylan Connelly
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Shorelines are shrinking. Storms are flooding streets and battering homes. Coastlines around the country are being hit by climate change.

And, perhaps surprisingly, California is offering an example of how the coast can be saved.

So says the latest annual State of the Beach Report Card released Tuesday by the Surfrider Foundation.

The report grades 30 states and Puerto Rico on policies that address coastal erosion, sea level rise and extreme weather events. The San Clemente-based nonprofit has compiled the report annually since 2000.

While California earned high marks in most categories — and was the only state to receive an "A" — the results show that most coastal states are losing the battle with climate change, and that all states need to make improvements if they want to keep their

BEACHES » PAGE 8

POLITICS

GOP tax bill a dilemma for local House members

Provisions could cost their constituents, give foes an opening in 2018 ballot

By Jeff Horseman
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The ads, fair or not, would go like this: "Californians — Republican Congressman (insert name here) voted to raise your taxes and take away your health care!"

It's a Democratic attack coming to your mailbox, TV and radio in 2018 if Southern California's House Republicans, after unanimously voting in May to repeal Obamacare, support a tax reform bill that takes away deductions frequently used by California taxpayers.

"Establishment Republicans have already voted for a budget that would raise taxes on millions of middle-class families in order to give tax breaks to millionaires and overseas corporations that will increase the deficit by over a trillion dollars," said Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee spokesman Drew Godinich.

"They will absolutely be held accountable for their track record of failing to represent working families in 2018."

GOP » PAGE 7

J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rep. Kevin Brady, R-Texas, joined by Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, R-Wis., right, holds a proposed "postcard tax filing form" as they unveil the GOP's far-reaching tax overhaul last week.

TEXAS MASS SHOOTING

JAY JANNER — AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN VIA AP

Meredith Cooper of San Antonio and her daughter Heather visit a memorial of 26 metal crosses near First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, on Monday.

Gunman once escaped from mental health center

Records show missed opportunities to possibly halt attacker

By Nomaan Merchant, Jim Vertuno and Will Weissert
The Associated Press

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, TEXAS » The gunman who carried out the massacre of 26 people at a small-town Texas church briefly escaped from a mental health center in New Mexico in 2012 and got in trouble for bringing guns onto a military base and threatening his superiors there, police reports indicate.

Kelley

Devin Patrick Kelley was also named as a suspect in a 2013 sexual assault in his Texas hometown of New Braunfels, about 35 miles from the scene of the church attack.

The records that emerged Tuesday add up to at least three missed opportunities that might have offered law enforcement a way to stop Kelley from having access to guns long before he slaughtered

SHOOTING » PAGE 6

CANNABIS

Armored cars to ferry pot money? That could be part of the solution

State treasurer lists proposals to aid access to banking services

By Brooke Staggs
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California should contract with armored car services to transport cannabis-generated tax money and study the idea of creating a public bank to serve the marijuana industry, according to State Treasurer John Chiang.

The recommendations came during a Tuesday news conference in Sacramento, where Chiang and members of his Cannabis Banking Working Group presented a 32-page report after their nearly yearlong study into how to help marijuana companies access banking services.

Big banks don't handle cannabis-related money because the drug remains illegal federally, a factor that figures to be a hurdle

POT » PAGE 9

ASIA TRIP

Trump warns N. Korean leader on weapons

The president said Kim Jong Un should not underestimate the resolve of the U.S. and its allies to defend themselves. NEWS 3

SPORTS

Report: 3 UCLA players arrested in China

The freshmen, including LiAngelo Ball, the younger brother of Laker Lonzo Ball, were reportedly accused of shoplifting. NEWS 4

NHL

Kings come back

Nick Shore scored in overtime against the Ducks for a 4-3 comeback Kings victory in Anaheim. SPORTS 1

ELECTIONS

Democrats sweep governors races

Voters in Virginia and New Jersey send rebuke to President Trump, giving Democratic candidates large victories Tuesday. NEWS 5

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